REMARKS

Claims 45-48 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 45-48 are supported by original claims 40-43. Accordingly, no question of new matter arises and entry of the amendments is requested, respectfully.

In the Office Action, the Examiner issues a restriction requirement and requests that Applicant elect <u>one</u> of the following groups for prosecution on the merits:

- Group I Claim 1, drawn to an Ox receptor classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.
- Group II Claim 2, drawn to an Ox receptor classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.
- Group III Claims 3 and 4, drawn to an Ox receptor classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.
- Group IV Claims 5 and 6, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule classified in class 536 subclass 24.1+.
- Group V Claims 7 and 8, drawn to a method classified in class 536 subclass 24.1+.
- Group VI Claim 9, drawn to a method classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.
- Group VII Claim 10, drawn to a method classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.

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Group VIII Claims 11-33 and 36, drawn to a compound and a composition classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.

Group IX Claims 34 and 35, drawn to a compound and a method classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.

Group X Claims 37-39, drawn to methods classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.

Group XI Claims 40-44, drawn to methods classified in classes 544 and 548 and various subclasses.

In response, applicants elect group XI, claims 40-44. Claims 40-43 have been presented as new claims 45-48 and claim 44 has been canceled.

The election is made without traverse.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 30,951

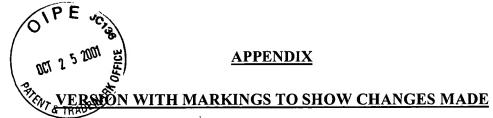
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-3213

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: October 25, 2001

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-44 are canceled.

New claims 45-48 are added.